

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CPR-02 SS-15 NSC-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /111 W
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R 270747Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1732

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5355

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, PINT, PFOR, AS

SUBJ: NEW AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS

1. PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM ANNOUNCED SEPT 26 A CHANGE IN MAJOR AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENTS. SIR JAMES PLIMSOLL, AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., IS SCHEDULED TO BECOME AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW. HE WILL BE REPLACED IN WASHINGTON BY SIR PATRICK SHAW, CURRENTLY HIGH COMMISSIONER TO INDIA. IN ADDITION, MR. K. C. O. SHANN, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DFA, IS SCHEDULED TO REPLACE GORDON FREETH AS AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO. MR. WHITLAM CONCLUDED HIS ANNOUNCEMENT BY STATING THAT BRUCE GRANT, FORMER PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR FOR THE MELBOURNE AGE WILL BECOME AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN NEW DELHI.

2. NEWSPAPER SPECULATION IS THAT RESHUFFLE IS RESULT OF RECENT WHITLAM DECISION TO NAME FORMER AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR TO PARIS A.P. RENOUF AS SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN CANBERRA. APPOINTMENT OF BRUCE GRANT TO NEW DELHI HAS FOLLOWED SOME MONTHS OF SPECULATION THAT PRIME MINISTER EXPECTED TO APPOINT GRANT TO THIS POST AT FIRST SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY. OPPORTUNITY APPARENTLY OCCURRED WITH RETIREMENT OF GORDON FREETH, FORMER LIBERAL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHO WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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APPOINTED AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO AFTER LOSING HIS PARLIAMENTARY SEAT

A FEW YEARS AGO. MR. GRANT'S APPOINTMENT IS SECOND MAJOR NON-CAREER ASSIGNMENT TO BE MADE BY PRIME MINISTER. OTHER, OF COURSE, IS APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSOR STEPHAN FITZGERALD TO PEKING.

3. GRANT IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN NEW DELHI IN NOVEMBER. OTHER THREE AMBASSADORS WILL TAKE UP NEW APPOINTMENTS EARLY IN 1974.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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